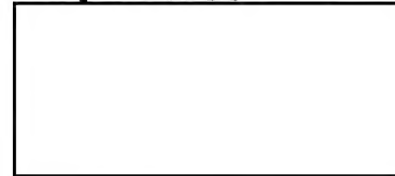
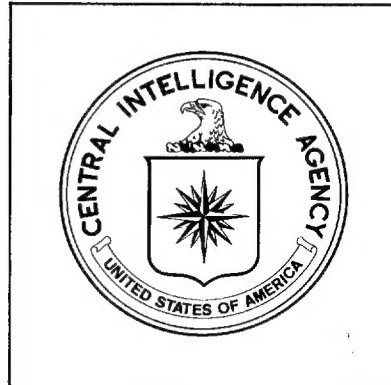


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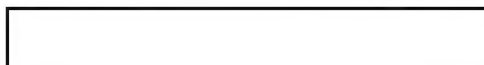


STAFF NOTES:

Soviet Union Eastern Europe

State Department review completed

On file Department of Agriculture
release instructions apply.

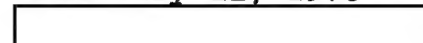


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SOVIET UNION - EASTERN EUROPE

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Ilichev to Return to Peking

According to the Agence France Presse, the chief Soviet negotiator at the Sino-Soviet border talks, Deputy Foreign Minister Leonid Ilichev, will return to Peking on February 12. The negotiations have been suspended since last August when Ilichev left. In mid-November Ambassador Stoessel was told that Ilichev would be going to Peking at some time in the future to show Soviet good faith.

Ilichev returns to Peking after a period during which both China and the USSR have forcibly restated their positions on the issues that have stalled negotiations since their inception in 1969. Recent Chinese statements, including Premier Chou En-lai's major speech last month, have insisted upon conditions Moscow has consistently found unacceptable. It is unlikely, under these circumstances, that any movement will appear on either side if, indeed, another round of border talks begins.

Ilichev's reported arrival comes two days before the 25th anniversary of the Sino-Soviet Treaty of Friendship. This treaty has been ignored by both sides in public in recent years, but the Soviets may intend to mark this anniversary with publicity proclaiming their desire to improve Sino-Soviet relations. They could point to Ilichev's presence in Peking as evidence of their good intentions.

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Moscow Announces Plans for
the 30th Anniversary of World War II

The Soviets are preparing to make the 30th anniversary of victory in Europe a major domestic propaganda event and are trying to generate extensive international participation as well. A CPSU Central Committee announcement on February 9 outlines plans for the celebration. Nationwide activities are concentrated in a five-day period ending May 9, with party, government, and mass organizations being called upon to organize and carry out activities at all levels of society in celebration of the victory. Highlights are to be a joint armed forces - workers meeting in the Kremlin palace of congresses on February 8, and an "all people's" holiday on the 9th. A military parade may be held on the final day of the festivities.

The main themes of the celebration will be the leading role the CPSU played in the war, the unity of party and people, the pre-eminent contribution of the Soviet armed forces to the defeat of Germany and Japan, and the military might of the Soviet state. World War II will be portrayed, as usual, as a conflict between imperialism and socialism. Other themes will be the importance of national resistance movements in occupied territory, the need for improved ideological work in the armed forces (the subject of an ongoing campaign) and military preparedness.

While the lengthy announcement is basically an "anti-imperialist" diatribe, the contribution of the "anti-Hitler coalition" to the war effort and present-day detente both received brief but positive treatment. The allied effort during the war is cited as an example of the possibility of cooperation between states with differing social systems. Detente, which the announcement alleges had its genesis in the peace proposals of

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[REDACTED]

the 24th party congress, is described as a positive step, but the document cautions that the forces of reaction and aggression are still active and that continued vigilance is mandatory.

The Soviets have attempted to enlist governments of the other allied powers in large-scale joint ceremonies commemorating the victory, but so far have not made much headway. Some minor activities, on the scale of previous annual celebrations, are planned in various West European countries--excluding Germany.

There is little indication so far as to how the Soviets will handle the touchy role of Stalin during the war. He was not mentioned in the Central Committee document, and the emphasis placed on the party--rather than on any individual--suggests that Stalin's contribution will be treated circumspectly. One new Soviet movie depicts Stâlin as confused and indecisive after the Nazi invasion, but as developing into a strong leader as the war progressed. Such attempts at realism may become standard in handling this problem.

Brezhnev's position is also being treated somewhat ambiguously. He is mentioned only once--in pro forma fashion--in the Central Committee announcement. His wartime role has received some favorable press publicity recently, although his name was conspicuously omitted from at least one *Pravda* account of the activities of his unit during the conflict. The above omission may indicate possible uncertainty about the future of Brezhnev's role in the collective when he resumes his duties.

[REDACTED]

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Pravda Has Kind Words
for Armenian Efforts

Pravda reported on February 4 that a recent plenum of the Armenian party Central Committee had pointed out major shortcomings in economic and cultural programs in the republic, as well as omissions in ideological and educational work there. *Pravda* also said that the plenum participants had expressed "profound gratitude" to the CPSU Central Committee for its "constant great concern" for the development of the republic's economy and culture. The report ended with a prediction that communists and all working people in Armenia "would not stint their strength and energy" in their struggle to fulfill the targets for 1975 and for the five-year plan as a whole.

This is the most positive assessment of the situation in Armenia to appear in *Pravda* since K. S. Demirchyan replaced A. Ye. Kochinyan as republic party boss there last November. It may be another sign that the authorities in Moscow are confident that Demirchyan is well on his way toward putting Armenia's house in order. Republic premier A. G. Arzumanyan had given a similar hint in a *Komsomolskaya Pravda* article on January 7. Responding to the annual CPSU Central Committee appeal for fulfillment of the economic plans, Arzumanyan emphasized the steps being taken in the republic to put an end to the shortcomings that had been exposed at the November plenum there, when Demirchyan replaced Kochinyan.

A somewhat negative note was struck, however, by the Komsomol Central Committee Bureau resolution, published in *Komsomolskaya Pravda* on February 5, on the work of Armenian Komsomol units in preparing for the exchange of Komsomol documents scheduled to begin

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next month. Although the resolution contains some praise for the Armenian Komsomol, the shortcomings that are mentioned reflect unfavorably upon the republic party organization's supervision of the local Komsomol units. These shortcomings are hardly unique to the Armenian organization, but it may have been singled out for public criticism to keep the pressure on Demirchyan to continue with his house-cleaning.

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Podgorny Trip Again Postponed

Soviet President Podgorny's visit to Tanzania has apparently again been postponed. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] the visit was to have begun on February 21. [REDACTED]

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Podgorny reportedly was scheduled to go to Tanzania last December, but that visit was canceled at the last minute. No explanation was given for either postponement. [REDACTED]

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CHRONOLOGY

February 4

Tass denies report that the USSR requested use of Portuguese ports for its fishing boats. [REDACTED]

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Foreign Minister Gromyko and Egyptian President Sadat meet for four hours in Cairo. [REDACTED]

25X1

Three of the USSR's leading space officials visit Cape Canaveral, the first official Soviet tour of that facility. [REDACTED]

25X1

Romanian chief of staff Coman concludes a visit to Sudan and flies to Italy for an overnight visit. [REDACTED]

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25X1

Politburo candidate-member Rashidov returns to the USSR after a visit to India. [REDACTED]

25X1

US Export-Import Bank announces that a credit of a little more than \$1.3 million has been extended to Poland. [REDACTED]

February 5

Pravda prints an authoritative "I. Aleksandrov" critique of the new Chinese constitution. [REDACTED]

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French Socialist leader Mitterrand announces that, at Soviet request, he will postpone his visit to the USSR from late February to early April. [REDACTED]

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Radio and television officials of the USSR and seven other CEMA member-states complete a two-day meeting in Moscow.

[REDACTED]

25X1

Foreign Minister Gromyko concludes a three-day visit to Egypt. [REDACTED]

25X1

February 6

USSR formally protests to the three Western powers the establishment of the EC's vocational center in West Berlin. [REDACTED]

25X1

Soviet dissident artist Rabin tells the US that plans for another exhibit by Moscow's abstract artists have been approved "in principle" by municipal officials. [REDACTED]

25X1

US Department of Agriculture confirms that the USSR has canceled orders for 200,000 metric tons of US wheat; Soviet officials in Moscow say, however, that the USSR will buy the same amount of corn. [REDACTED]

25X1

Politburo candidate-member Demichev confers with Armand Hammer of the US on possible exchanges of art. [REDACTED]

25X1

Politburo candidate-member Rashidov addresses a plenum of the Uzbek Central Committee in Tashkent. [REDACTED]

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February 7

Representatives of CEMA and the EC conclude three days of apparently unproductive talks in Moscow.

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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25X1

[REDACTED]

Politburo member Kirilenko heads the list of Soviet officials meeting with exiled Chilean Socialists in Moscow.

25X1

Romanian President Ceausescu addresses the final session of a three-day agricultural conference. [REDACTED]

25X1

Romanian Deputy Premier Radulescu concludes a three-day visit to China.

25X1

UN Secretary General Waldheim commences a three-day visit to East Germany. [REDACTED]

25X1

Council of Ministers convenes in Moscow to discuss "the results of the fulfillment of the state plan for the development of the national economy of the USSR for 1974." [REDACTED]

25X1

New Zealand Prime Minister Rowling leaves on an extended trip that will include visits to Romania and Yugoslavia.

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February 8

Soviet cosmonauts slated for the joint venture into space in July arrive at Cape Canaveral. [REDACTED]

25X1

Romanian Defense Minister Ionita concludes a three-day visit to Yugoslavia.

25X1

Polish Foreign Minister Olszowski concludes a three-day visit to Hungary.

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25X1

Hungary and Jamaica establish diplomatic relations. [REDACTED]

25X1

Pravda announces the completion of a two-year exchange of party cards for CPSU members. [REDACTED]

25X1

February 9 The two Soyuz-17 cosmonauts return to earth in the Kazakh SSR after a 30-day mission aboard Salyut-4. [REDACTED]

25X1

February 10 US and USSR resume in Moscow their talks on handling peaceful nuclear explosion devices in a threshold test ban treaty. [REDACTED]

25X1

Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs official registers oral complaints to the US over Radio Liberty broadcasts and an article on Solzhenitsyn in "Dialogue"--an English language publication distributed in Moscow by the US embassy. [REDACTED]

25X1

February 11 Romanian President Ceausescu addresses a meeting of his ambassadors and trade officials in Bucharest. [REDACTED]

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FUTURE EVENTS

February 13 UK Prime Minister Wilson and Foreign Secretary Callaghan to begin a five-day visit to the USSR. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

25X1

February 16-17 Secretary of State Kissinger and Foreign Minister Gromyko to meet in Geneva. [REDACTED]

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February 17 Ministerial-level Egyptian economic
delegation to visit the USSR. [redacted]

25X1

February 18 Yugoslav Central Committee to convene
for a plenum session. [redacted]

25X1

[redacted]

25X1

February 22 Defense Minister Grechko to begin a
or 23 visit to India. [redacted]

25X1

February 24 US and USSR to resume in Washington
their talks on an agreement to curb
efforts to modify the environment to
gain military advantages. [redacted]

25X1

[redacted]

25X1

February 26 French Foreign Minister Sauvagnargues
to begin a three-day visit to Poland.
[redacted]

25X1

early March French parliamentary delegation led by
former foreign minister Couve de Murville
to visit the USSR. [redacted]

25X1

March 4 26-nation Geneva disarmament conference,
co-chaired by the US and the USSR, to
convene. [redacted]

25X1

March 11 Romanian chief of staff Coman to
begin a nine-day visit to the US, the
first by such a high-ranking officer
of a Warsaw Pact member-state. [redacted]

25X1

March 16 Swedish Prime Minister Palme to
commence a three-day visit to Yugoslavia.
[redacted]

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[redacted]

25X1

March 17 Hungarian Communist Party Congress to
open. [REDACTED]

25X1

March 19 Yugoslav Premier Bijedic expected to
begin a visit to the US. [REDACTED]

25X1

March Finnish President Kekkonen to make a
state visit to Yugoslavia. [REDACTED]

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early April Romanian President Ceausescu to make
a state visit to Jordan, the first visit
there by the chief of state of a Com-
munist bloc nation. [REDACTED]

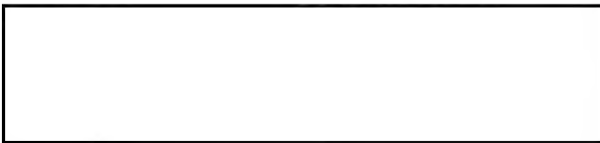
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